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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: James Howard JOHNSTON et al.

Serial No.: New

Filing Date: December 21, 2004

For: IMPROVEMENTS IN OR RELATING TO WET OXIDATION

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the aboveidentified application as follows: